Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously Presented) A digital camera comprising:

an insertion port into which a storage medium is inserted;

an imaging device;

a controller that stores an image taken by the imaging device in the storage medium inserted into the insertion port;

a medium detector that detects if the storage medium inserted into the insertion port is a storage medium limiting a number of overwrite;

a display device that displays an executable instruction in the digital camera; and

a display change processing device that changes a display of the display device based upon a kind of the storage medium detected by the medium detector, wherein:

the display device displays the instruction including a delete disable release instruction that lets an image to be stored in the storage medium disabled to be deleted become capable of being deleted, and

when the medium detector detects that the storage medium limiting a number of overwrite is inserted into the insertion portion, the display change processing device changes a display of the display device so as not to display the delete disable release instruction.

12-13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously Presented) The digital camera according to claim 15, wherein:

when the medium detector detects that the storage medium limiting a number of overwrite is inserted into the insertion port and also deletion of the image is instructed by the delete instruction device, the delete method change processing device writes data in a storage area of information about an image to be deleted in the storage medium limiting a number of overwrite.

15. (Previously Presented) A digital camera comprising:

an insertion port into which a storage medium is inserted;

an imaging device;

a controller that stores an image taken by the imaging device in the storage medium inserted into the insertion port;

a medium detector that detects if the storage medium inserted into the insertion port is a storage medium limiting a number of overwrite;

a delete instruction device that instructs to delete an image stored in the storage medium; and

a delete method change processing device that changes a method of deleting the image based upon an instruction of the delete instruction device corresponding to a kind of the storage medium detected by the medium detector, wherein

when the medium detector detects that the storage medium limiting a number of overwrite is inserted into the insertion port and also deletion of the image is instructed by the delete instruction device, the delete method change processing device creates new data management information showing a state in which image data corresponding to image data for which deletion of the storage medium limiting a number of overwrite is instructed and management information which does not allow writing in an area that has been once recorded, and records the data management information and the management information in

the storage medium limiting a number of overwrite, and invalidates data management information that existed prior to the deletion instruction.

16-29. (Canceled)

30. (Previously Presented) A digital camera comprising:

an insertion port into which a storage medium is inserted;

an imaging device;

a controller that stores an image taken by the imaging device in the storage medium inserted into the insertion port;

a medium detector that detects if the storage medium inserted into the insertion port is a storage medium limiting a number of overwrite;

a delete instruction device that instructs to delete image data stored in the storage medium; and

a capacity detector that detects memory capacity of the storage medium inserted into the insertion port, wherein:

when the medium detector detects that the storage medium limiting a number of overwrite is inserted into the insertion port, the delete instruction device instructs a different delete method corresponding to memory residual capacity of the storage medium limiting a number of overwrite detected by the capacity detector, wherein

when the capacity detector detects that the storage medium limiting a number of overwrite has memory residual capacity not enough to record new data management information in the storage medium limiting a number of overwrite, the delete instruction device instructs so as to nullify the image data area.

31-45. (Canceled)

46. (Original) An image storage apparatus comprising:

a connecting device that connects to a storage medium recording image data;

a delete instruction device that instructs so as to delete image data recorded in the storage medium connected to the connecting device;

a medium detector that detects if the storage medium connected to the connecting device is a storage medium limiting a number of overwrite;

an image storage memory; and

a delete control device that controls so as to receive image data recorded in the storage medium connected to the connecting device, store the received image data in the image storage memory and delete the image data of the storage medium automatically after storage thereof, wherein:

when the medium detector detects that the storage medium limiting a number of overwrite is connected to the connecting device, the delete control device halts automatic deletion of the image data after storage thereof.

47. (Canceled)

48. (Original) The image storage apparatus according to claim 46, wherein:

when the medium detector detects that the storage medium limiting a number of overwrite is connected to the connecting device, the delete control device inquires whether the image data is deleted.

49. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium encoded with a control program, the control program comprising following steps to be executed on a computer:

a step of instructing so as to delete image data recorded in a storage medium connected to a connecting device;

a step of detecting whether a storage medium connected to the connecting device is a storage medium limiting a number of overwrite;

a step of receiving image data recorded in the storage medium connected to the connecting device and storing the received image data in the image storage memory;

a step of deleting the image data of the storage medium automatically after storage of the image data; and

a step of halting automatic deletion of the image data after storage thereof when it is detected that the storage medium limiting a number of overwrite is connected to the connecting device.

50-53. (Canceled)

54. (Previously Presented) An apparatus comprising:

an insertion port into which a storage medium is inserted;

a controller that stores a data file in the storage medium inserted into the insertion port;

a medium detector that detects if the storage medium inserted into the insertion port is a storage medium limiting a number of overwrite;

a display device that displays an executable instruction in the apparatus; and

a display change processing device that changes a display of the display device based upon a kind of the storage medium detected by the medium detector, wherein:

the display device displays the instruction including a delete disable release instruction that lets a data file to be stored in the storage medium disabled to be deleted become capable of being deleted, and

when the medium detector detects that the storage medium limiting a number of overwrite is inserted into the insertion portion, the display change processing device changes a display of the display device so as not to display the delete disable release instruction.

55. (Previously Presented) An apparatus comprising:

an insertion port into which a storage medium is inserted;

a controller that stores a data file in the storage medium inserted into the insertion port;

a medium detector that detects if the storage medium inserted into the insertion port is a storage medium limiting a number of overwrite;

a delete instruction device that instructs to delete a data file stored in the storage medium; and

a delete method change processing device that changes a method of deleting the data file based upon an instruction of the delete instruction device corresponding to a kind of the storage medium detected by the medium detector, wherein

when the medium detector detects that the storage medium limiting a number of overwrite is inserted into the insertion port and also deletion of the data file is instructed by the delete instruction device, the delete method change processing device creates new data management information showing a state in which data corresponding to the data file for which deletion of the storage medium limiting a number of overwrite is instructed and management information which does not allow writing in an area that has been once recorded, and records the data management information and the management information in the storage medium limiting a number of overwrite, and invalidates data management information that existed prior to the deletion instruction.

56. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 55, wherein:

when the medium detector detects that the storage medium limiting a number of overwrite is inserted into the insertion port and also deletion of the data file is instructed by the delete instruction device, the delete method change processing device writes data in a storage area of information about the data file to be deleted in the storage medium limiting a number of overwrite.

57. (Canceled)

58. (Previously Presented) An apparatus comprising:

an insertion port into which a storage medium is inserted;

a controller that stores a data file in the storage medium inserted into the insertion port;

a medium detector that detects if the storage medium inserted into the insertion port is a storage medium limiting a number of overwrite;

a delete instruction device that instructs to delete the data file stored in the storage medium; and

a capacity detector that detects memory capacity of the storage medium inserted into the insertion port, wherein:

when the medium detector detects that the storage medium limiting a number of overwrite is inserted into the insertion port, the delete instruction device instructs a different delete method corresponding to memory residual capacity of the storage medium limiting a number of overwrite detected by the capacity detector, wherein

when the capacity detector detects that the storage medium limiting a number of overwrite has memory residual capacity not enough to record new data management information in the storage medium limiting a number of overwrite, the delete instruction device instructs so as to nullify the data file area.

59. (Previously Presented) A data storage apparatus comprising:

a connecting device that connects to a storage medium recording a data file;

a delete instruction device that instructs so as to delete the data file recorded in the storage medium connected to the connecting device;

a medium detector that detects if the storage medium connected to the connecting device is a storage medium limiting a number of overwrite;

a data file storage memory; and

a delete control device that controls so as to receive the data file recorded in the storage medium connected to the connecting device, store the received data file in the data file storage memory and delete the data file of the storage medium automatically after storage thereof, wherein:

when the medium detector detects that the storage medium limiting a number of overwrite is connected to the connecting device, the delete control device halts automatic deletion of the data file after storage thereof.

60. (Previously Presented) The data storage apparatus according to claim 59, wherein:

when the medium detector detects that the storage medium limiting a number of overwrite is connected to the connecting device, the delete control device inquires whether the image data is deleted.

61. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium encoded with a control program, the control program comprising following steps to be executed on a computer:

a step of instructing so as to delete a data file recorded in a storage medium connected to a connecting device;

a step of detecting whether a storage medium connected to the connecting device is the storage medium limiting a number of overwrite;

a step of receiving the data file recorded in the storage medium connected to the connecting device and storing the received data file in the image storage memory;

a step of deleting the data file of the storage medium automatically after storage of the data file; and

a step of halting automatic deletion of the data file after storage thereof when it is detected that the storage medium limiting a number of overwrite is connected to the connecting device.